

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/050,152

Examiner

George R. Koch III

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI, YASUJI

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/30/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-7.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/18/2002
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 1-3, drawn to an invention elected without traverse, are cancelled.

2. Claims 4-7 are allowed

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In the context of an apparatus for forming a coated film of a thermoplastic material on a region of at least a part of an inner peripheral surface of a cylinder so as to extend in a whole circumferential direction thereof which includes a cylinder drive mechanism for rotating the cylinder in the circumferential direction about a central line of the cylinder, a paste applying machine for discharging a molten paste of the thermoplastic material kept molten by heating from a distal end of a nozzle, the paste applying machine including a gun head provided with the nozzle, a gun head moving mechanism for moving the gun head, and a molten paste feed equipment for feeding the molten paste to the gun head, the prior art of record does not suggest or make obvious the further limitation of a timing controller, the timing controller being constructed in such a manner that operation timing of each of the cylinder drive mechanism, the gun head moving mechanism, and the

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molten paste feed equipment is determined so as to permit the cylinder to be rotated in the circumferential direction while keeping the nozzle arranged in a space in the cylinder and so as to permit the nozzle to be moved along a rotational center of the cylinder being rotated and within a range opposite to the region while keeping the molten paste discharge from the nozzle.

The prior art, for example, US 4,137,928; US 3,974,306; US 3,658,033; US 4,976,797; and JP 04-36163 do suggest and make obvious an apparatus for forming a coated film of a thermoplastic material on a region of at least a part of an inner peripheral surface of a cylinder so as to extend in a whole circumferential direction thereof which includes a cylinder drive mechanism for rotating the cylinder in the circumferential direction about a central line of the cylinder, a paste applying machine for discharging a molten paste of the thermoplastic material kept molten by heating from a distal end of a nozzle, the paste applying machine including a gun head provided with the nozzle, a gun head moving mechanism for moving the gun head, and a molten paste feed equipment for feeding the molten paste to the gun head.

Furthermore, US 4,976,797 suggests rudimentary control mechanisms in a very similar apparatus, but lacks any mention of a timing controller, instead being devoted to pressure control.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George R. Koch III whose telephone number is (571) 272-1230 (TDD only). If the applicant cannot make a direct TDD-to-TDD call, the applicant can communicate by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 and giving the operator the above TDD number. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 10-7.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on (571) 272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



GRK
May 15th, 2004

George R. Koch III
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1734



RICHARD CRISPINO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700